

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A table saw guard assembly for guarding a blade on a table saw, said guard assembly comprising:

a support structure; and

a hood assembly mounted to said support structure including a first side curtain, a second side curtain, and a quick-release mechanism for providing selective engagement between said support structure and said entire hood assembly, said quick release mechanism including a biasing member urging said quick release mechanism into engagement with said support structure, wherein each of said first and second side curtains are independently movable relative to said support structure.

2. (original) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said support structure includes a riving knife.

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said quick-release mechanism includes a fixed tab and a push tab pivotally connected to a pivot pin, wherein said push tab includes a lock pin and said support structure includes an aperture for receiving said lock pin.

5. (original) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said hood assembly further includes a locking mechanism adapted to selectively engage and secure said at least one of said first and second side curtains.

6. (original) The guard assembly of claim 5, wherein said locking assembly includes a screw and a wing nut.

7. (original) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said first and second side curtains independently move in response to a force applied by a workpiece.

8. (original) The guard assembly of claim 5, wherein said first and second side curtains are moveable in accordance with said engagement of said locking mechanism.

9. (cancelled)

10. (original) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said first side curtain includes a first coupler, and said second curtain includes a second coupler adapted to engage said first coupler thereby connecting said first and second side curtains.

11. (original) The guard assembly of claim 10, wherein said first coupler includes a female snap-fit connector and said second coupler includes a male snap-fit connector adapted to selectively interconnect with the first coupler providing for codependent movement of said first and second side curtains.

12. (original) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said first and second side curtains are independently removable from said hood assembly.

13. (currently amended) A table saw guard assembly for guarding a blade on a table saw, said guard assembly comprising:

a support structure; and

a hood assembly connected to said support structure including a first side curtain, a second side curtain, and a quick-release mechanism for providing selective engagement between said support structure and said entire hood assembly, said quick release mechanism including a biasing member urging said quick release mechanism into engagement with said support structure, wherein each of said first and second side curtains are independently removable from said hood assembly.

14. (original) The guard assembly of claim 13, wherein said support structure includes a riving knife.

15-19. (cancelled)

20. (original) The guard assembly of claim 13, wherein each of said first and second side curtains are independently moveable relative to said support structure.

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A table saw guard assembly for guarding a blade on a table saw, said guard assembly comprising:

a support structure;

a hood assembly connected to said support structure including a mounting member, a first side curtain and a second side curtain;

said first and second side curtains each being independently connected to said mounting member;

a first locking assembly for independently and selectively removing each of said first and second side curtains from said mounting member; and

a second locking assembly for selectively removing said mounting member from said support structure, said second locking assembly including a quick-release mechanism for providing selective engagement between said support structure and said entire hood assembly assembly, said quick release mechanism including a biasing member urging said quick release mechanism into engagement with said support structure.

23. (original) The guard assembly of claim 22, wherein said support structure includes a riving knife.

24-43. (cancelled)

44. (new) The guard assembly of claim 1, wherein said biasing member includes a spring.

45. (new) The guard assembly of claim 13, wherein said biasing member includes a spring.

46. (new) The guard assembly of claim 22, wherein said biasing member includes a spring.